

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 225-238 were pending. By this Amendment, Claims 231-233 and 235 have been amended and Claims 239-281 have been newly added. New Claims 239-281 correspond to the canceled Claims 17-41 and 43-58. Thus, no new matter has been introduced. After entry of this Amendment, Claims 225-281 will be currently pending and under examination, of which Claims 225, 239-241, 243-244, 247-248, 261, 263-264, 268, and 280-281 are independent claims.

In the Office Action dated November 18, 2008, Claims 2, 4-41, and 43-58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent No. 532,920 to Hartrick et al. ("Hartrick") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,796,220 to Wolfe ("Wolfe"). It is noted that Claims 231-233 and 235 have been amended and Claims 239-281 have been newly added. To the extent the rejection remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicants traverse the rejection, as follows.

Claim 225 recites, among other things, receiving, via a processor of a library unit, a request for an electronic book from an electronic book ordering site, wherein the library unit has an identification (library ID), and wherein the electronic book ordering site includes an electronic book viewer that has a viewer identification (electronic book viewer ID); requesting the electronic book from an operation center; upon a determination that a status of an account associated with the electronic book viewer is current, determining that the electronic book viewer is an authorized viewer; transmitting a data signal and a local authorization code from the operation center to the library unit,

wherein the data signal comprises an encrypted content of the requested electronic book, and at least two unique ID numbers, wherein one of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the library ID and another of the at least two unique ID numbers matches the electronic book viewer ID, wherein the local authorization code is used to decrypt the encrypted content of the requested electronic book; receiving, at the library unit, the data signal and the local authorization code; storing the received authorization code; transmitting the data signal and the local authorization code to the electronic book viewer, and at the electronic book viewer, decrypting the encrypted content of the electronic book using the local authorization code; displaying pages of the electronic book; storing the electronic book in a memory, and controlling viewing of the electronic book via a control panel of the electronic book viewer, wherein the electronic viewer is separate from the library unit and communicates with library unit via a wired or wireless interface.

Claims 239-241, 243-244, 247-248, 261, 263-264, 268, and 280-281 includes similar features of Claim 225.

As submitted in Applicants' previous Amendment filed March 18, 2009, neither Hartrick nor Wolfe, when taken singly or in combination, teaches or suggests each and every element of independent Claim 225. It is, therefore, submitted that as independent Claims 239-241, 243-244, 247-248, 261, 263-264, 268, and 280-303 includes similar features of Claim 225, neither Hartrick nor Wolfe, when taken singly or in combination, teaches or suggest each and every element of Claims 239-241, 243-244, 247-248, 261, 263-264, 268, and 280-281.

Based on the above, the currently pending Claims 225-303 are allowable over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, allowance of all the pending claims, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300 referencing docket number **026880.00024**.

Respectfully submitted,



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